1	2	3	4
June-08	38380	34000	18650
July-08	76780	62220	52830
August-08	44500	59550	53590
September-08	17340	22270	21090
October-08	10000	7690	7080
November-08	10000	30990	30790
December-08	15000	25620	25310
January-09	27500	37430	23820
Cumulative Figures	250700	261710	248230

UREA

Month	Requirement	Availability	Sales to State agency/ dealers /stockist
April-08	6000	71820	2220
May-08	12000	85820	7150
June-08	35000	97210	16460
July-08	82000	139210	77560
August-08	145000	149440	123760
September-08	96000	138200	110580
October-08	25000	45030	9340
November-08	15000	31790	2880
December-08	15000	39420	9710
January-09	30000	47920	33080
Cumulative Figures	460000	407570	392740

Qualification for membership of railway board

†*9. SHRI SHREEGOPAL VYAS:

SHRI BALAVANT *ALIAS* BAL APTE:

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether any fixed rule/qualifications have been laid down for membership of Railway Board;

(b) whether there is any resentment among officers in this regard;

(c) whether it is causing delay in decision making process; and

(d) the status thereof?

THE MINISTER OF RAILWAYS (SHRI LALU PRASAD): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) No, Sir. However, representations in regard to interpretation of these norms have been received and examined.

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

(c) No, Sir.

(d) Does not arise.

Hazardous effect of GM food

*10. SHRI MAHENDRA MOHAN:
SHRIMATI SHOBHANA BHARTIA:

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether a group of Scientists and agriculture experts have cautioned against introduction of genetically modified (GM) food crops, especially BT Brinjal in the country;

(b) if so, whether such GM food stuffs may cause allergies and unknown health problems;

(c) if so, whether several developed countries have either banned or restricted the entry of GM foods; and

(d) if so, the steps Government propose to take to restrict the entry of GM foods in the country?

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI SHARAD PAWAR): (a) The Department of Agricultural Research and Education has not received any report from a group of scientists and agricultural experts cautioning against introduction of genetically modified (GM) food crops specially Bt Brinjal in the country.

(b) As per the biosafety data conducted so far, no allergies and unknown health problems by GM food stuffs has been reported.

(c) The Department of Agricultural Research and Education does not have any information.

(d) There is no proposal to restrict the entry from GM food in the country.

Third berth near window in train coaches

†*11.SHRI PYARELAL KHANDELWAL : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that his Ministry had decided to add a third berth near the window of a railway compartment in order to increase its income;

(b) if so, the total number of coaches where a third berth has been added under the said scheme so far;

(c) to what extent the same has added to the income of Railway Department so far; and

(d) whether it is also a fact that now it is being proposed to discontinue this scheme?

THE MINISTER OF RAILWAYS (SHRI LALU PRASAD): (a) With the prime objective of enhancing the passenger carrying capacity in our trains, provision of a third (middle) berth was thought to be made in Sleeper Class and AC 3 Tier coaches running in mail/express services and also in AC 3 Tier coaches of Garib Rath trains.

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.